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President Kennedy, Allen Dulles and John A. McCone (right) leave the press conference near Newport, R. I., today where the President announced Mr. Dulles' retirement as director of the Central Intelligence Agency and the appointment of Mr. McCone as his successor.—AP Wirephoto.

Kennedy Chooses McCone To Succeed Dulles in CIA

By GARNETT D. HOOVER
Star Staff Writer

NEWPORT, R. I., March 27.—President Kennedy announced today that John A. McCone will succeed Allen W. Dulles as director of the Central Intelligence Agency in Newport.

Both Mr. McCone, a Republican business executive, and Mr.

McCone No Stranger to the White House.

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former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission. Mr. Dulles appeared at the president at a special press conference here for the announcement.

Mr. Dulles, 68, has been in the CIA since 1955. Mr. McCone, 57, was chosen to succeed Mr. Dulles.

The President said Mr. McCone will go to the CIA to take over the job of Mr. Dulles.

Will Lead Board

Mr. McCone also will serve as chairman of the Joint Intelligence Board, Mr. Kennedy said.

The President recalled that when he asked Mr. Dulles to stay on the job as CIA director soon after his election last November, Mr. Dulles agreed to do so for a year.

He said that he and Mr. Dulles had been much concerned this summer that the CIA should continue to serve as an effective instrument of the country's policy and that the transition to a new director should be as smooth as possible.

The President added that both he and Mr. Dulles were "extremely pleased and gratified" that Mr. McCone had agreed to return to Government service. He said Mr. McCone was a "public servant" and a "man of high caliber."

less again his business interests in California.

Mr. Kennedy made no mention of the criticism of Mr. Dulles that developed in some quarters about the CIA participation in the abortive invasion of Cuba by anti-Castro Cubans in a spring.

Praises Dulles

Instead, he stressed a "strong feeling of appreciation and regard" for Mr. Dulles, who began in intelligence work in 1911. The President recalled that Mr. Dulles had served the country under eight Presidents, starting with Woodrow Wilson, in World War I. He said he thought this was a "unique record in American history."

Mr. Kennedy added that he knows of no man who is "more courageous and selfless public servant" than Mr. Dulles.

He expressed "profound regret" at Mr. Dulles' retirement.

He said Mr. Dulles' "long